

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3470
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2001
DEATHS IN TIHAR JAIL
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of deaths in Tihar Jail due to various illnesses has been considerably on the rise;
- (b) if so, the number of deaths of Tihar inmates due to various diseases during 2000 as compared to 1999;
- (c) whether the Government have made any assessment of the existing health care services provided to the prisoners lodged in Tihar Jail to identify the deficiencies, if any;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the health care services in Tihar jail?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

- (a) & (b): The number of persons lodged in the Central Jail, Tihar who died after illness in the year 2000 was 24 as against 21 in the preceding year.
- (c) to (e): Yes, Sir. Due to their socio-cultural background, a number of prisoners in Delhi Jails are afflicted with diseases like tuberculosis, hepatitis and drug addiction prior to the confinement. The Prison Administration has set-up to Directly Observed Therapy Centres (DOTCs) for tuberculosis patients in Central Jail Hospital and Female Jail in which Specialist Doctors attend to the patients. The Hospital has investigation facilities like X-ray, sputum examination and blood examination. Three de-addiction centres and two rehabilitation centres are also being run in Delhi Prisons for de-toxification and rehabilitation of the drug addicts under the supervision of Medical Specialists, Psychiatrists and NGOs. The patients with serious illness are also referred to RBTB Hospital and DDU Hospital as and when required.